

Remarks

The restriction/election of species requirement mailed September 29, 2005, has been reviewed and carefully considered. In response to the restriction requirement, applicants elect claims 1-28 (Group I) for further prosecution, but with traverse for the reason stated below.

The examiner contends that “the apparatus can be used to practice another different process which supplies a liquid into the reaction space” in support of the restriction requirement. Applicants note that the same restriction requirement and supporting argument was previously made in a restriction requirement mailed October 18, 2004. Applicants’ reply and traverse mailed on January 18, 2005, presumably overcame the October 18, 2004 restriction requirement since another restriction requirement was mailed on May 12, 2005 that relied upon different grounds for support. Applicants have now inexplicably received a *fourth* restriction requirement that repeats the exact same grounds as the *second* restriction requirement.

In any event, there is no indication from the claim language that the apparatus of independent claims 29 and 38 could be used with a liquid in the reaction space. For example, the preamble of claim 29 recites an “[a]pparatus for conducting a chemical reaction which has a gas phase reactant component and a gas phase product component” (emphasis added). The preamble of claim 38 includes similar language. Line 6 of claim 29 states “a rotary module for pressure swing adsorption separation of a gas mixture” (emphasis added). Accordingly, the restriction requirement should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Applicants elect species iv (hydrogen) in response to the election of species requirement. Contrary to the examiner’s assertion, process claim 1 and apparatus claims 29 and 38 are generic since they read upon all of the species identified by the examiner. Process claims 1-3, 12, and


16-28 read upon the elected species. Apparatus claims 29, 31, 32, 33, and 36-66 read upon the elected species.

Should there be any questions regarding this application, Examiner Neckel is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

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